

BERMUDA GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS ACT 2008



BERMUDA

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Date of Assent: 16 July 2008

Operative Date: 16 July 2008

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WHEREAS it is necessary to improve Bermudians' access to higher learning:

Be it enacted by The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Citation

1 This Act may be cited as the Bermuda Government Scholarships Act 2008.

Interpretation

2 In this Act—

“Accommodation” means room and board;

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“Bermudian” means a person who possesses Bermudian status within the meaning of the Bermuda Immigration and Protection Act 1956;

“Board” means the Board of Education as appointed under section 3 of the Education Act 1996;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for education;

“Scholarship” means a Bermuda Government Scholarship.

Annual competition

3 (1) The Scholarship shall be open to competition annually and shall be awarded to not more than eight persons whom the Minister considers, on the advice of the Board, to be the most qualified candidates.

(2) The Minister shall not award a Scholarship to any candidate whose qualifications do not reach the standard required by the Board.

Value and length of tenure

4 (1) Each Scholarship shall cover the full cost of annual tuition for a term not exceeding 3 years —

(a) at an overseas educational institution approved by the Minister; or

(b) at Bermuda College for a programme offered by an overseas educational institution.

(2) Where a Scholarship is awarded to cover the costs referred to in subsection (1)(a), the Scholarship shall also cover, for that term —

(a) accommodation at a rate equal to the cost of dormitory accommodation for a single student at the educational institution;

(b) a one-way airline ticket to commence studies; and

(c) a one-way airline ticket to return to Bermuda upon successful completion of studies.

(3) The Minister may extend the term during which a Scholarship is tenable for a further year to enable the holder to complete a course of study approved by the Minister.

(4) The costs covered for the extended term in subsection (3) shall be the same as those covered in subsections (1) and (2).

Minister may make regulations

5 (1) The Minister may make regulations governing matters relating to the competition for the Scholarships and the tenure thereof, including regulations—

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- (a) for application for Scholarships by candidates;
- (b) for extension of the term of the Scholarships;
- (c) respecting the character and conduct of the examination, which shall include inquiry as to the moral and physical qualifications of candidates;
- (d) with regard to the terms and conditions on which the Scholarships are to be held.

(2) The negative resolution procedure shall apply to regulations made under this section.

Eligibility of candidates

- 6 (1) Every candidate for a Scholarship must —
- (a) be a Bermudian;
 - (b) be not less than seventeen years of age and not more than twenty-three years of age on the first day of October in the year of application; and
 - (c) have been educated in Bermuda for at least five school years.

Payment of funds

7 (1) Payment of a Scholarship awarded under this Act shall be paid out of the Consolidated Fund, in such manner as prescribed by regulations under this Act, equal to their full annual tuition.

(2) The sums provided shall be liable to forfeiture, either in whole or in part, if the person awarded the Scholarship fails to comply with any regulation made under this Act during the tenure of the Scholarship.

Repeal

8 (1) The Bermuda Government Scholarships Act 1958 is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Bermuda Government Scholarships Act 1958 shall continue to apply in respect of persons who received a Scholarship under that Act.